GREENBELT
News Review
An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 69, No. 16 | 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 | MARCH 9, 2006

Greenbelt Crossing Plan Approved 2 to 1 by Council

by A. Neil Deo

The vacant Greenbelt Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on Greenbelt Road will be transformed into 90 luxury condominiums to be called Greenbelt Crossing. Razing of the existing building will commence in 2006 and the new units will be completed early in 2008. This much became evident when a Detailed Site Plan (DSP) was discussed and approved narrowly by a 2 to 1 vote at the Greenbelt City Council meeting on February 27.

The 4.5-acre property is located along Greenbelt Road (MD 193) between University Square Apartments and the National Guard Armory. The owner is Armory Place, LLC. The development team is known as Lincoln Property Co., although it also has been referred to as "Lincoln Property; Vika, Inc.; and Lessard Group.." Attorney Thomas Haller of Gibbs & Haller spoke for this team during Monday night's council meeting.

Five Conditions

Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development staff and its spokesperson for the evening Community Planner Ethan Bindernagel began the presentation by thanking the developer for a good working relationship. The staff report noted, "Generally speaking, the development team . . . has been highly responsive to city requests and very open to staff suggestions throughout the process."

The city and Armory Place, LLC had signed a Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions in November 2004. This agreement granted the city authority to review and approve the project's proposed DSP, landscape plan, building height, freestanding and building signage, architectural elevations, grading, storm drainage and paving plans.

Bindernagel informed council that staff was recommending the DSP with five conditions, one of which provides for $15,000 from the developer for construction of an ADA-compliant sidewalk along the north side of the free right-turn lane on Southway. Other conditions relate to a proposed gateway sign, aesthetically pleasing and of quality construction materials, noise attenuation and acoustical analysis certificates.

The "E-shaped" building will have 211 parking spaces accessible to all units from the covered parking area. The developer has proposed a low-impact development technique on the northwestern wing of the building allowing downspouts to discharge rain water over the grassy, landscaped

See **COUNCIL,** page 6

USPS, Merchants To Meet with City

U.S. Postal Service representatives will meet with Roosevelt Center merchants and the city council on Wednesday, March 15 at 8 p.m. in the Community Center to discuss the need for a retail or contract postal unit in Roosevelt Center.

Council Action Raises a Query

by James Giese

At its February 27 meeting, only three members of the Greenbelt City Council were present. Councilmembers Konrad Herling and Edward Putens both had excused absences. Section 8 of the Greenbelt City Charter provides that a majority of the five-member council must be present to conduct business. That was the case and the three members dealt with issues before council.

However, Section 8 also provides that "the affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to the council shall be necessary to adopt any ordinance, resolution, order or vote" As reported elsewhere in this paper, at the meeting council approved by a 2 to 1 vote the detailed site plans for Greenbelt Crossing, the new condominium project proposed for the site of the former Greenbelt Nursing

See **QUERY,** page 6

Council Recieves Northway Fields Report for Approval

by James Giese

Council at its regular March 13 meeting is expected to receive a joint report from two of its advisory boards recommending approval of a plan for the Northway ballfields. Such approval, however, would be subject to three conditions; a recommendation was also added to the plan.

The Advisory Planning Board and the Park and Recreation Advisory Board approved the report by a unanimous vote of members present at a February 15 joint meeting, according to Community Planner Ethan Bindernagel of the Department of Planning and Community Development.

The Northway fields, located at the east end of Northway extended, were officially named by a previous city council for James Wolfe, a former mayor of Greenbelt. On the east side of the area is an interchange ramp for the employees' entrance to the Goddard Space Flight Center from the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

To the south and west the area abuts on the newly-designated city forest preserve. The existing fields and adjacent roadway extend onto land previously designated by the city council as untouchable forest preserve and the proposed plan maintains this overlap. Bindernagel said that the existing tree wall was regarded as a "brick wall that you can't impede upon."

The northern boundary for the ballfields is a 10-acre city parcel excluded from the forest preserve for an observatory to be placed there for use by the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG). At one time the area was a city landfill. Included in the report is the site plan for the observatory structure previously acquired for ASG.

According to Bindernagel, the boards included a recommendation not to use poured concrete but to use only permeable materials for a small pad to be used by the astronomers as well as for road and parking surfaces. They also recommended fencing the adjacent city material yard to prevent encroachment on adjacent woodland and constructing a defined pathway connecting to the NASA-Parkway access ramp for use by NASA employees walking or bicycling to work and using the ramp as a shortcut.

See **FIELDS,** page 9

News of Awards Adds Glow To the City Council Meeting

by A. Neil Deo

Two awards, a significant donation to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and a glowing magazine article about Greenbelt took center stage, initially, at the Greenbelt City Council meeting. The February 27 meeting then proceeded with discussion of the Greenbelt Crossing Development and Greenhill/Hillside Roads Outfall Stabilization and Stream Restoration Project. (See article above.)

Bay Partner Award

First was the golden moment of recognition for Greenbelt's pro-environment role in the Chesapeake Bay Program. The city received a citation and a "Chesapeake Partner Sign" as part of the Chesapeake Bay Partner Community Award sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Program (established in 1997) and its Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC).

The award's purpose is to recognize local governments in the Chesapeake Bay watershed whose actions demonstrate their commitment to protecting and restoring the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers and streams. Greenbelt had qualified for the silver award in 2000 and "went for the gold" in 2005.

Member cities (about 650 in total) are judged on their programs and activities, including reducing impervious surfaces. Greenbelt performed well on 42 benchmarks in four categories based on the goals in the Chesapeake Bay 2000 Agreement.

On hand to make the presentations was Kelly Porter, Seat Pleasant city councilmember, representing the LGAC. Porter addressed the meeting and volunteered to stay beyond the photo opportunity. Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby was recognized and invited to be included in the picture as the person responsible for making the application.

Porter reminded the audience, "Everything you put out there [on yards and lawns] works its way down to the Bay." He noted that the city had acquired over 210 acres of undeveloped land in the past 10 years and had been among the first to begin and increase biker lanes and car-share

See **AWARDS**, page 8

What Goes On

Saturday, March 11
9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between Municipal Building and Community
1 to 3 p.m., Not for Seniors Only, Talk on Getting Organized and Reducing Clutter, Senior Classroom of Community Center
Monday, March 13
7 p.m., Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee, Community Center
7:30 p.m., Reception for ACE Educators, Municipal Building
8 p.m., ACE Awards/Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building (Live on Channel 71)
Wednesday, March 15
7:30 p.m., Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center
7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center
8 p.m., Council Worksession with U.S. Postal Service and Center Merchants, Community Center

ACE Education Honors To Be Presented Monday

by Mary Moien

The City Council chambers will be standing room only on Monday, March 13 when the ACE Educator Awards are presented. The council and the members of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) will be joined by County Councilmember Douglas J.J. Peters and others to honor one educator from each of the schools that serve Greenbelt students. All Greenbelters are invited to this ceremony which begins at 8 p.m.

The schools themselves select one staff member to be honored each year. It may be a principal, a teacher, an aide or other staff member. All adults who work in the schools are "educating" the students. If this year is like earlier years, the chambers will be filled to overflowing with school principals, colleagues, family and friends of each awardee. Each winner receives an apple trophy.

Although the 2006 ACE Educator Award winners have not been made public, it is noteworthy to mention those winners from the previous two years. Many are still educating Greenbelt's children.

2005

The awardee from Greenbelt Elementary School was first grade teacher Barbara Packer; from Springhill Lake Elementary School came Bonnie Gregory, classroom teacher and technology coordinator. Principal Phyllis Gillens was honored by Magnolia Elementary and Linda Wilson, school counselor, represented St. Hugh's. At Greenbelt Middle School, Paulette Duncan, language arts teacher, was honored. Allison Galloway of Eleanor Roosevelt High School was chosen for her extensive knowledge of the biological sciences.

2004

The honoree from Greenbelt Elementary School was science coordinator Pamela Bauer; from Springhill Lake Elementary School, Trena White was selected for her professional commitment to her students. At Magnolia Elementary a parent was chosen – Annie Haber who is the parent liaison for the ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) program. St. Hugh's School nominated receptionist (and all-around helper) Paula Beaver. The award winner at Greenbelt Middle School was Fay Jackson who headed the math department and the math tutoring program. Eleanor Roosevelt High School selected math teacher Connie Davis.

All Greenbelters are invited to this year's ceremony to learn more about the adults who are molding the Greenbelt citizens of tomorrow.

Site Work at Friends School Finally Begins after Delays

by Peter H. Curtis

It has been almost 10 months since Friends Community School (FCS) held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new "green" building on its property off Kenilworth Avenue just south of Westchester Park. Last week the bright orange fencing marking the area to be prepared for construction finally went up and heavy equipment began working.

In an interview, Head of School Tom Goss explained that this long delay had many causes. Part of the problem was simply the normal, slow process of securing the needed permits from the many relevant governmental bodies. But two major factors seriously delayed the project even prior to the permitting process, Goss explained.

First, early in the summer the original general contractor, Gilbane Building Company, informed the school that it was unable to meet its original cost estimate for the project. Because of the very tight building budget, the FCS Board of Trustees decided that the school could not afford Gilbane's revised price.

Instead, in July the entire selection process for a general contractor began all over again. As a result, it was not until late September that a new general contractor, Harbor View Construction, Inc. of Baltimore, was selected.

By then there was another major, unforeseen problem. When FCS acquired the property, it fell heir to a portion of a private sewer whose ownership was unclear. Cutting across private and federal land, this damaged sewer involved local, state and federal agencies ranging from the National Park Service to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). Lengthy discussions and negotiations ensued and finally all parties determined that after the school repaired the sewer, WSSC would assume ownership of it.

Once the future of the sewer had been determined late in the fall of 2005, it was finally possible for the school to apply for the necessary county building permits. On February 9 the rough grading permit was issued and the general contractor was notified to gear up to begin work.

How will this long delay impact the school? Goss stated that it does not present any problems for FCS as the school has been able to extend the lease for its present building in College Park until the end of this calendar year. Since the estimate of construction time for the new building is about nine months, Goss expects to be able to oversee the move of the school during the coming academic year, likely late in the fall. He also noted that the delay will have no effect on the "green" construction techniques to be used in the building nor on the plans to have FCS offer grades kindergarten through eight instead of its current K to six.

Peter Curtis is a member of the staff of the Greenbelt News Review and board member of Friends Community School.

Greenbriar Clothing Drive Underway



Greenbriar condominium management reminds residents that it is spring cleaning time and Greenbriar is holding its annual clothing drive through March 31. The clothing drive gives Greenbriar members a chance to help update someone's wardrobe by donating clothing they will never wear again.

Donations will be accepted in the Greenbriar management office. On April 1 all donated clothing will be delivered to an organization serving those in need.

For more information call Community Affairs Director Ramona Davis at 301-441-1096, ext. 11.

5K Run/Walk Boosts Cancer Awareness

Colorectal cancer is the second -leading cause of cancer deaths for men and women combined in the United States, affecting men and women of all races equally. Yet if detected early, the five-year survival is greater than 90 percent.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. In order to increase awareness of the disease, the Charles Kraenzle Colon Cancer Foundation is hosting the second annual "Scope it Out 5K Run/Walk" on March 25 in West Potomac Park. All net race proceeds benefit colorectal cancer research and advocacy groups including Lombardi Cancer Center. Thirty-five hundred participants are expected to attend.

For more information contact Julie Clowes at 202-249-8239 or Charlotte Kraenzle at 703-408-0614.

Marietta Hosts War Re-enactors

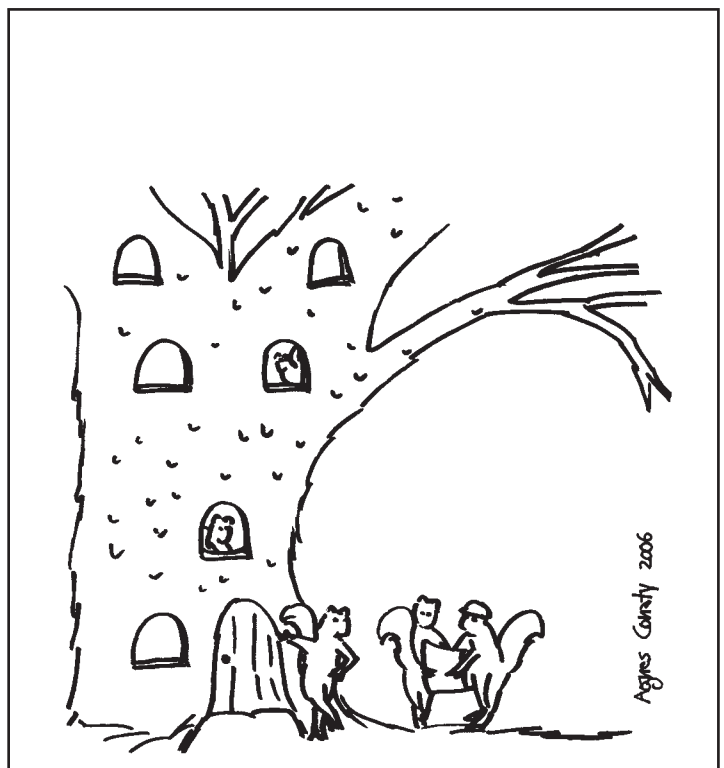
Civil War re-enactors of the 7th Maryland Company, a United States unit, will hold a drill day on Saturday, March 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the lower field of the grounds at Marietta House Museum. This is a free event open to the public.

Re-enactors will demonstrate military drills, weaponry and tacticals in Civil War period uniforms. Tours of Marietta House Museum are also available from noon to 4 p.m. for a fee.

Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, off Route 193 north of Route 450/Annapolis Road.

For information call 301-464-5291/ TTY 301-699-2544.

Grin Belt



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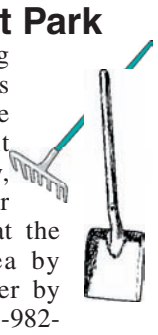
"McMansions . . . What McMansions?"

Free Help with Taxes Available at Library

Free help with preparation of income taxes is available at Greenbelt library. Sponsored by AARP, sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through April 11. People with middle or low incomes are eligible with special attention to those who are 60 and older.

For an appointment and information about what to bring, call 301-541-5031 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Help Clean Trails At Greenbelt Park



REI is looking for 100 volunteers to clean up the trails in Greenbelt Park on Saturday, March 15 and/or April 29. Meet at the Holly Picnic Area by 8:45 a.m. Register by calling REI at 301-982-9681 (registration is mandatory). Greenbelt Park is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

Senior Resource of the Month

The TeleTouch Program

The Prince George's County Department of Family Services Area Agency on Aging is introducing a "TeleTouch" program. Previously called the Telephone Reassurance Program, it recruits volunteers from the community, senior centers and other volunteer programs to place daily reassuring phone calls to senior citizens in the county. Calls are made Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The goal of the program is to eliminate some of the concerns facing seniors who remain independent. Other program goals are to assist senior citizens in maintaining their independence, to provide an opportunity for daily socialization and a source of contact with the community, to help decrease feelings of loneliness and isolation and to provide an avenue to report mistreatment.

The program provides the opportunity to connect by telephone with someone who cares. The program also provides added peace of mind for relatives who live out of town or who are unable to contact their family members on a regular basis.

This free service is open to Prince George's County residents, 60 years of age or older, who are socially isolated. Persons interested in receiving calls for themselves or another qualified senior can call 301-265-8410.

The Senior Resource of the Month is provided as a community service by Christal Batey, Community Resource Advocate.

Gardeners Needed

The Prince Georges Master Gardener Program is recruiting volunteers to help educate Maryland residents on safe and effective gardening and horticultural practices. Persons who like to garden and help others should consider becoming Maryland Master Gardeners. Daytime classes start March 15 to May 17 on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. There will be evening classes in the fall. For more information contact Mike Ensor at 301-868-8784 or mensor@umd.edu or Esther Mitchell at 301-423-4249 or emitpiano@aol.com.

Old Time Fun Offered

Join an evening of rousing entertainment presented by the Ship's Company Chanteymen on Saturday, March 11 at 8 p.m. This band of interpreters of early 19th century maritime history will sing chanteys and tell sea stories. The fee includes tavern-style food and beverages. Come dressed in modern or in period attire. Riversdale, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in Riverdale Park. For more information or reservations call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544. Website: www.pgparks.com; email Riversdale@pgparks.com.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE
WEEK OF MAR. 10
CAPOTE (R)
Friday
*5:00, 7:30, 9:55
Saturday
*2:30, *5:00, 7:30, 9:55
Sunday
*2:30, *5:00, 7:30
Monday – Thursday
*5:00, 7:30
*These shows at $5.00
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Pat Davis.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for Monday, March 13 through Friday, March 17 include:

Monday – Grape juice, meatloaf with parsley gravy, whole boiled potatoes, California blend vegetables, peach supreme.

Tuesday – Apple juice, oven fried haddock with tartar sauce, mashed potatoes, chopped spinach, canned peaches.

Wednesday – Navy bean soup, Italian sausage with green peppers and onions on bun, seasoned pasta, sliced carrots, pineapple chunks.

Thursday – Orange juice, beef stew with vegetables, brown rice, lettuce and tomato salad with dressing, frosted cupcake.

Friday – Split pea soup, sliced corn beef, chopped cabbage, whole boiled parsley potatoes, sliced carrots, fruit cocktail.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting on March 15

On Wednesday, March 15, a neighborhood watch interest meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the New Deal Café. Residents of Old Greenbelt are invited to attend a community meeting to learn more about how a neighborhood watch in Old Greenbelt could help improve the safety of streets and walkways.

Officer George Mathews of the Greenbelt Police Department will be an invited speaker. He will discuss the benefits of a community-supported neighborhood watch program, share successful models adopted by other citizen groups and help the group design an appropriate program tailored to local needs. For more information call Melissa Ehrenreich at 301-666-1069 or email mehrenreich@comcast.net.

Greenbriar Phase II Holds Annual Meeting

The Greenbriar Phase II annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m. in the Greenbriar Terrace Room. For more information call Community Affairs Director Ramona Davis at 301-441-1096, ext. 11.

Crocheting Class At Greenbriar

On Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. a crocheting class will be held in the Greenbriar Commons Room for those age 8 and up. This is an opportunity to learn to crochet or bring projects in progress that need some expert help.

Participants must register in advance in the Greenbriar office and provide their own supplies. There is a small fee.

For further information call Ramona Davis, community affairs director, at 301-441-1096, ext.11.

Volunteers Needed To Plan Triathlon

The Greenbelt Thirteen and Under Triathlon, kinGTUT 2(006), for 2006 will be held on June 3 from 10 a.m. to noon. Much planning and work go into the triathlon and volunteers are needed now to make it a success.

Co-sponsoring the kinGTUT 2(006) are volunteers of the St. Hugh's CYO track team and the Greenbelt municipal swim team. Planners for these groups will meet at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center meeting room on Tuesday, March 14 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. All interested volunteers are needed to join, plan and help, especially those who helped last year. For questions call Race Director Larry Hilliard at 301-474-7504.

GHI Notes

Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m., SDP Committee meeting, board room

Thursday, March 16 at 7 p.m., Finance Committee meeting, board room

Monday, March 20 at 7:15 p.m., Pre-purchase orientation

Mamas and Papas Meet Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Mamas and Papas will meet Wednesday, March15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Babies, pre-schoolers and their parents are invited to the play group, where the kids play and the adults swap parenting tips, tricks and support. The group meets at the Greenbelt Youth Center Multi-Purpose Room at 99 Centerway. For more information call Tina Clarke at 301-474-9522 or email tina_clarke@comcast.net.

Game Club Features "Go" Next Week

The City of Greenbelt's Strategy Games Club holds game play every Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Youth Center Multipurpose Room. The March 14 "Game of the Week" is Go. The game of Go originated in China over 3,000 years ago. Go is played with few simple rules but the strategy involved is very complex. Those who like to play chess are sure to enjoy this game. The object of Go is to surround territory by placing stones on a grid board. Go is a game for all ages. The handicapping system allows players of all levels to compete against each other and have an equal chance of winning. Those who have only heard of the game or who want to learn to play are invited. Participants will have the opportunity to both learn and play. All levels of Go players from beginners to experts are invited to join in.

The Strategy Games Club also has a wide variety of other games available to participants. Some of the new strategy games offered include Carcassone, Mah Jongg, Cartegena and Ticket to Ride. The club also offers some more well-known strategy games such as Chess, Checkers, Backgammon and Jenga.

The Strategy Games Club is a intergenerational group for ages 8 and above. Registration is not required and participants may come as they like. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

March 19: GATE Annual Meeting

Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m. in the GATE Studio. There will be an overview of the past year's activities, a guest speaker and refreshments. The annual meeting is free, open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

The GATE Studio is located on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center (15 Crescent Road) across from the Multi-purpose Room. For more information call the studio at 301-507-6581.

At the Library

Children

Tuesday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, March 15, 10:30 a.m. – Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, March 16, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Adults

Saturday, March 11, the Poetry Plus discussion group is cancelled for this month. Consult the News Review for information on upcoming meetings.

Wednesday, March 15, 7 p.m., Book discussion, Alice Randall's "The Wind Done Gone."

GreenBeLT Pride Membership Meeting

GreenBeLT Pride, an organization for gay, bisexual, lesbian, transgender citizens of Greenbelt will host its first annual membership meeting on Sunday, March 12 from 3 to 6 p.m., in Room 301 of the Greenbelt Community Center at 115 Crescent Road.

The agenda for the meeting includes the election of the organization's first board, adoption of bylaws, reports on future projects, events and socializing. The guest speaker for the program will be Patrick Wojahn, a board member of Equality Maryland, the statewide organization for the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals. Wojahn was also a part of the historic Maryland lawsuit granting marriage rights to same-sex couples. The decision is currently under appeal.

Having formed at the end of May 2005, GreenBeLT Pride has organized social events over the past eight months and has focused on developing an organizational model for itself which will be presented to the membership at this meeting. All are welcome.

Door prizes will be available for attendees. For information, visit www.greenbeltpride.org, email FdeBernardo@aol.com or call Frank at 240-432-2489.

Clutter Workshop On March 11

Come this Saturday, March 11 to the "Not for Seniors Only" anticlutter workshop "Clutter: Treasure or Trash," presented by Lore Rosenthal in the Greenbelt Community Center Senior Classroom #114. Learn how to get organized and reduce clutter. It can be done. For more information call 301-397-2200.

Cubs Clean Pond



PHOTO BY WOLF DEN LEADER GARY SANDERSON

Alex Hedge and Matthew Sanderson of Cub Scout Pack 202's Wolf Den pose at clean up site.

On Saturday, March 4 Greenbelt Cub Scout Pack 202 cleaned up the pond at the corner of Ora Glen Drive and Hanover Parkway. The boys filled more than 15 garbage bags with trash.

Led by Wolf Den Leader Gary Sanderson, the scouts who spent their morning helping the community by beautifying the pond were Mark Bailey, Jimmy Schnurr, Stevie Hunt, Drew Ables, Casey Ables, Ryan Campbell, Jonathan Polo, Robert Zurla, Roger Mieras, Alex Hedge and Matthew Sanderson.

Spaghetti Dinner At Mowatt Church

The last spaghetti dinner until fall will be held at the Mowatt Methodist Church on March 18 from 5 until 7 p.m. The menu includes all-you-can-eat spaghetti, salad and bread. Pies will also be for sale along with dinner.

Senior Softball Team Looking for Players

The Greenbelt Senior Softball Team is looking for players age 60 and over to play for this season. Bring a glove down to the Youth Center any Wednesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. for practice and some exercises.

Call Ray Reed, manager, at 301-568-6977 if there are any questions. There are 39 games to be played Mondays and Wednesdays, daytime only so there will be plenty of opportunities to play.

Senior Ice Cream Social and Music



The Greenbelt Recreation Department Senior Center will host its 10th annual Ice Cream Social for seniors on Friday, March 17. This free program will begin at 1 p.m. in the Community Center gym where Richard Garnett, "Richie G," will perform "A Touch of Sinatra."

Senior citizens will be able to socialize, relax and be entertained with the sounds of Frank Sinatra. After the performance attendees will make their own ice cream sundae. The ice cream will be available beginning at 2:30 p.m. in the dining room. All seniors are invited to attend this afternoon program. For more information call the Community Center at 301-397-2208.

PASSOVER WINE TASTING AND USED BOOK SALE

Mishkan Torah Synagogue, 10 Ridge Road

Saturday, March 18, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

(Used book sale will continue on March 19 from 9 a.m. – noon)
Admission charged for wine tasting and food $18

Tasting of five intriguing international Passover wines.
Other non-alcoholic beverages will be available plus cheese, fruit, crackers.

Orders for wines for Passover delivery will be available.

Wide variety of used books for sale.
No admission charged for used book purchasing.

St. Hugh's Own Mardi Gras Draws Many Celebrants

by Austin Conaty

More than 100 Greenbelters gathered on February 25, the last Saturday before Lent, to join the St. Hugh Catholic Church Holy Mardi Gras Celebration.

The menu included steamed oysters, fried oysters, roast beef, red beans, gumbo, potato salad, cole slaw and king cake. The food was absolutely delicious.

Prizes won that evening included cakes baked by parishioners and dog training lessons donated by Greenbelt Dog Training.

Cajun and Zydeco music played as some of the parishioners joined in Cajun dancing.

Fun was had by all those in attendance including the planning committee members Chuck Hatcher, Ed Putens, John Solari, Judy Hughes and members of Sodality, Ladies of Charity, Home and School Association, CYO and Knights of Columbus.



PHOTO BY AGNES CONATY

Mardi Gras at St. Hugh has Cindy Perry watching the action with hands on hips, Kathy Labukas seen only from the back and Marti Galvin leaning forward to take a closer look at one of the cakes.

Passover Wine Tasting, Book Sale

In preparation for the holiday of Passover, which will begin on April 12, Mishkan Torah will hold a Passover wine tasting party along with a used book sale on Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. Different types of kosher wines from around the world will be available for tasting. The purpose of the wine tasting is to help broaden participants' knowledge of wines and to help make their Passover seders very festive.

It will be possible to order the kosher Passover wine of one's choice. There will also be a variety of cheeses, fruit, crackers and other nonalcoholic drinks with the wine. There is a fee for the food and wine tasting. Minors will not be allowed to taste any wine.

A used book sale will start on Saturday evening and continue on Sunday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to noon. (See ad on page 3.)

Mishkan Torah Celebrates Purim

The Jewish holiday of Purim will begin on Monday evening, March 13 at sundown. Services at Mishkan Torah will begin at 7:30 p.m. It will be a time for merriment where some people will come in costume and the magilla Esther, i.e., the book of Esther, will be read in its entirety, probably in many different languages, depending upon who will be called to do some of the reading. The languages that have been indentified so far are English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, French and perhaps German. For Jews of the past 150 years, the message of Purim has special significance.

Memorial Service For Terri Gates

A memorial service for Terri Gates will be held at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church, 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi on Sunday, March 12 at 3 p.m. Anyone in need of a ride may call Lu Price at 301-441-2545.

Time to Reserve A Garden Plot

The Greenbelt Garden Club will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Greenbelt Police Station meeting room.

Anyone interested in using a club plot for vegetable and/or flower gardening should attend the meeting, where 50' x 50' and 50' x 25' plots will be distributed.

Members who had a plot in 2005 get first preference on the plot they gardened. If members are unable to attend the meeting but are interested in continuing gardening with the club, they should call Dotty Esher at 202-624-7849 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. before March 21 to reserve a plot.

AARP Class Is For Senior Drivers

AARP is offering a two-day classroom refresher course designed for drivers age 50 and over on March 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Langley Park Senior Center, 1500 Merrimac Drive, Hyattsville.

Learn how to avoid driving hazards at this course. Graduates may qualify for insurance premium discounts. Participants must register in person. There is a fee. Only cash will be accepted, no refunds.

For information call 301-408-4343, TTY 301-445-4512.

NAMI Presents March Workshop

On Thursday, March 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. Linda O'Neil, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill – Maryland "In Our Own Voice" program coordinator and other NAMI members will tell their stories. They will give hope to family members, ideas on coping skills, examples of recovery and the inside scoop on the reality of having a mental illness.

Information on Medicare Part D and other mental health resources gathered by the state NAMI Maryland office will be available. This meeting will take place in the Hanko Building at Beckett Field, 8511 Legation Road, New Carrollton. For more information, call 301-577-6026.

Baha'i Faith

"O Friend!
In the garden of thy heart,
plant naught but the rose of love."
– Baha'u'llah

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

Catholic Community of Greenbelt
MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm
Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am
Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

St. George's Episcopal/ Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Sundays:	8:00 am	Simple, quiet Mass
	9:00 am	Christian education for all ages
	10:00 am	Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
	1:30 pm	Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays:	7:00 pm	Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/ Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service

Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: **301-474-6171** mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

CAUTION

Human life according to Islam is the most sacred entity on earth. Preservation of life is the primary goal of the Islamic law.

This is what God says in the Quran to anyone who takes an innocent life: ". . . it is as if he slew the whole of mankind; and if anyone saved a life, it is as if he saved the whole of mankind"
–The Holy Quran 5:35

To find out more about what Islam says about war and violence, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at info@searchislam.org or visit the website www.searchislam.org

CHANGE STARTS WITH YOU



Are you in elementary school, middle school, high school, college or a recent college graduate? You need to hear what Grace Gyemfi, a 2005 University of Maryland college graduate, has to say about life in the real world. As an aspiring talk show host, she will talk to you about how to realize your dreams and ambitions.

Event Hosted by: Faith Ministries, Inc.
Sunday, March 12, 2006 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
at 40 Ridge Road – Mowatt Methodist Sanctuary

Watch Grace interview today's & tomorrow's pop stars on '**Meeting**' a talk show on UMTV on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m., Wednesdays at8:30 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays at 10:00 p.m.

Our Neighbors

Congratulations to Sherry Garten, who has been selected by Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine and career consulting firm "Dream In You," as a semifinalist in their Dream Job Contest. Garten, with degrees in nutrition and art, wants to market a series of coloring books she has created to teach kids about healthy foods through cartoon characters. Two other metropolitan-area women are also among the 25 semifinalists. Three winners will be announced at the end of March and will receive a three-month skills analysis and job coaching program, $5,000, a new computer system and the opportunity to consult with mentors appropriate to their dream job field. Way to go, Sherry – we hope to hear at the end of the month that you are one of the three winners!

Congratulations and a very happy 88th birthday to Mat Amberg, who reaches this milestone the date of this issue, March 9.

Mat tells us that daughter Maggie Winz and her husband Dick spent a week as volunteers doing reconstruction work in Katrina-ravaged Mississippi. They worked near where the eye of the storm had hit. Maggie, a retired kindergarten teacher, helped with jobs needed in the school held in a trailer for kindergartners through third graders. Dick, a graphic artist, helped in building. They were so impressed by what they saw and so energized that they left their trailer to be used by helpers and plan to return several more times.

Three Greenbelters will appear in "Noises Off" presented by Prince George's Little Theater, Inc. starting March 10. They are Zachary F. Brewster-Giesz, John Decker and Keith Brown. Performances are at the Publick Playhouse in Cheverly.

City Notes

The parks crew completed work on the stone path at Buddy Attick Park and installed a stone wall consisting of western Maryland boulders at the Hillside underpass.

The horticulture crew transplanted over 5,000 annuals into four-inch pots to grow in the greenhouse until the threat of frost is over and then to be used for landscaping around the city.

The Arts Department reports that a reception was held at Springhill Lake Elementary School to recognize the achievements of students participating in the school's aftercare program and Recreation Department photography and ceramics classes. The Recreation Department will continue to offer arts classes at the school in order to enhance the aftercare curricula and assist the school in its pursuit of before and aftercare accreditation.

Community Center staff met with a representative from Sun-Dun about adding healthier drinks to the vending machine.

CARES

During the month of February, 18 families on average were seen for counseling. Fifty-eight individuals on average came on a weekly basis, among whom 24 were 18 years of age and younger. Forty-nine students participated in tutoring services.

City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

March 13, 2006, Municipal Building,
Reception for ACE Educators-7:30pm
Regular Meeting-8:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS
Presentations
- ACE Educator Awards Ceremony

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

*** Committee Reports** (Items on the Consent Agenda marked by ***** will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
- Advisory Planning Board/Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Report #06-02 (Northway Fields Master Plan)
- Board of Elections, Report #06-1 (Council Referrals)
- Board of Elections, Report #06-2 (Revisions to Election Code)

LEGISLATION
A Resolution for the Negotiated Purchase of a Two-Ton Truck Chassis (2nd Reading, Adoption)
A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Landscape and Mowing Services from TruGreen LandCare (1st Reading)

OTHER BUSINESS
- Comments on Intercounty Connector Environmental Impact Statements
- Selection of Audit Services for FY 2006
- State Legislation
- *Advisory Group Appointments/Resignations

MEETINGS
NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

Greenbelt Recreation Department

Spring Camp



Monday, April 10 - Friday, April 14

#236501-4

Warmer days are on their way, and Spring Break is right around the corner! We'll keep your kid's break action-packed with a combination of events at the Youth Center, Community Center, Aquatic and Fitness Center and by taking field trips. Tentative trips include: Jeepers, bowling & roller skating, hiking Cunningham Falls, Speed & Thro magic show, swimming and a cookout at Schrom Hills Park. Campers will also take a clay modeling class at the Greenbelt Community Center. All campers must be in kindergarten through sixth grade and are responsible for providing their own non-perishable lunch and drink.

REGISTER NOW!
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 301-397-2200

Greenbelt Recreation Department

GLAD PROGRAM SCHEDULE CHANGE

Because of school scheduled MSA tests, the GLAD program that was to take place on March 27th has been rescheduled to Friday, March 31st. This program is open to school age children in K-6th grade and will include an Ice Skating Field trip to the Gardens.

For more information call 301-397-2200.

GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER CLOSURE

The building will be entirely closed on March 22, 23 and 24 (weather permitting) for roof resurfacing.
For updates, contact 301-474-5525.

Meetings for March 13-17

Monday, March 13th, 7:00pm, **Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee,** Greenbelt Community Center. Info: 301-474-8004.

Monday, March 13th, 7:30pm, **Reception for ACE Educators,** 8:00pm **ACE Awards/Regular Council Meeting,** Municipal Building (live on Channel 71)

Wednesday, March 15th, 7:30pm, **Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB),** Greenbelt Community Center. Info: 301-397-2200

Wednesday, March 15th, 7:30pm, **Advisory Planning Board,** Greenbelt Community Center, Rm. 114. Agenda: I. Call to Order II. Approval of Agenda III. Approval of Minutes IV. Discussion of APB Report Format V. Greenbelt Station South Core-Detailed Site Plan review for Pulte townhouse development VI. Greenbelt Station South Core-Detailed Site Plan review for Fairfield multifamily development. VII. Adjourn. Info: 301-345-5417

Wednesday, March 15th, 8:00pm, **Council Work Session, with US Postal Service and Center Merchants**, Greenbelt Community Center.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call the number listed above or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov.

DONATION DROP-OFF
American Rescue Workers
Saturday, March 11th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Parking lot between the City Office and the Community Center
For further information contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8303.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000:
Monday, March 13 at 8pm: Council Work Session (live)
Tuesday & Thursday, March 14 & 16: 10am & 6pm "Ask the Expert – Care for the Caregiver," **7:00pm** ACE Reading Club-Springhill Lake Elementary, **8:00pm** "Replay of City Council Work Session."

PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581:
Wednesday & Friday, March 15 & 17: 7:00pm "Over the River and Through the Woods," **8:45pm** "Last of the Red Hot Lovers."

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.
Vacancies exist on the:
Advisory Committee on Trees
Community Relations Advisory Board
Youth Advisory Committee (Opening for adult position)
For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

NOT FOR SENIORS ONLY!
Clutter: Treasure or Trash? Getting Organized and Reducing Clutter
Saturday, March 11 from 1-3pm
Greenbelt Community Center Senior Classroom
Speaker Lore Rosenthal will lead a workshop that will help you decide!
Sponsored by: Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

CITY JOB OPENING for POLICE OFFICERS

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland is seeking Police Officer Candidates ($32,136.00/yr) and Certified Police Officers ($34,673.60/yr). 21 years of age; U.S. Citizen; H.S. Diploma or GED. A full time agency whose 54 officers provide service to 22,000 residents in six square miles serving a diverse population in the Washington/Metropolitan area. For job duties and responsibilities, as well as complete requirements and benefits, please see www.greenbeltmd.gov/police. Deadline: March 30, 2006 for upcoming test.

Apply: City of Greenbelt Personnel, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Download application and physical agility requirements from www.greenbeltmd.gov or call job line 301-474-1872 to request application be mailed. EOE.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

surface to allow for natural percolation and evaporation.

In summary, the DSP on Greenbelt Crossing addresses all environmental impacts and concerns raised by city staff. The developer has likewise provided details on exterior and interior noise attenuation provisions, including a noise wall to reduce noise pollution from Greenbelt Road.

The developer has been less forthcoming in agreeing to market the condominiums primarily to Greenbelt's senior residents. Haller, speaking on behalf of the developers, said that they had not wanted to "limit their market" that narrowly; and on the question of using the co-op model, he pleaded lack of familiarity with its intricacies.

Councilmember Leta Mach said she would make available to Haller the information she has on cooperatives, financing and home loans and Haller said he would accept it.

Councilmember Rodney M. Roberts expressed gratitude that the developer would plant 85 trees at Greenbelt Crossing, well above the county requirement. However, he remained insistent that senior housing was "the most critical need" in Greenbelt housing.

Roberts expanded on this subject later in the evening by suggesting that seniors may sell their two-bedroom townhouses and opt for alternate senior housing – housing that may, sometimes, be referred to as "luxury" condominiums – and that the developer would not be "risking" any profits or limiting sales by focusing on seniors in such a targeted marketing plan.

Haller went only so far as to suggest that he would ask the developers to consider posting a sign at Greenbelt Crossing with information guiding Greenbelt residents about whom to contact if they wanted to be on a short list. He added that Greenbelt Crossing is definitely not for families with young children: "We are not putting play equipment there" and the clubroom and fitness center design will be attractive to a more mature population.

Roberts argued with Haller and Bindernagel that although the original plan had called for 90 condo units, the city's zoning regulations had allowed only 67 on the former nursing home location. The city worked with the county to allow the regulations to be revised upward for the 90-unit development.

Roberts had anticipated, he said, that Greenbelt's need for good senior housing would have been satisfied by the developer. "I'm going to vote my way . . . and I'm not going to vote for it [this plan] as it is," Roberts said.

Davis queried if Lincoln Property Co. would find some way to market to Greenbelt residents first. She added, "I'm thinking of that [development for myself] too." Haller answered that ads in local newspapers along with the sign on the property would be possible ways to try to achieve this goal.

Mach thanked the developer for "making this an exceptional development" and reiterated the need for Greenbelt Crossing to have "a strong focus on . . . seniors in Greenbelt." Additional comments emphasized that seniors and "chronologically challenged" residents in Greenbelt may be willing to add their names to an early list within weeks and months.

Mach moved to approve the DSP on the recommendation of city staff along with the five conditions. Davis seconded the motion. With Councilmembers Konrad Herling and Edward Putens absent, the motion carried, 2 to 1, with Roberts voting no.

Three Ordinances

Of three ordinances passed unanimously, two related to streamlining accounting procedures relating to the Unemployment Compensation Reserves and Temporary Disability Reserves. The repeal of the separate funds for these reserves will not affect the benefits provided to city employees.

The third ordinance increases the maximum amount allowable for minor purchases without the necessity of taking bids.

Outfall/Stream Restoration

Terri S. Hruby, assistant planning director, persuaded council to approve $31,700 for a design services contract for restoration of 800 feet of the stream running between Lakewood and Woodland Hills subdivisions.

During the Greenbelt Lake Watershed Study, Environmental Systems Analysis (ESA) looked at four watersheds. The watershed for this stream was identified as highest priority in terms of addressing stream erosion issues. Hruby said the city may not recoup all of this design cost in future grants but once the design services are contracted, the city stands a better chance of locating nonprofit or other funding for the restoration project.

The problem and solutions envisaged have some similarities with the work done behind St. Hugh's Church. Although funding for design work is almost nonexistent, the city received several hours of pro bono work from ESA assisting staff with grant applications.

HB 659 Support

Council voted to support Maryland House of Delegates bill HB 659 as being consistent with the city's opposition to construction of a proposed University of Maryland Connector Road. The bill calls for a detailed study on reducing vehicular traffic at the University of Maryland, College Park.

QUERY continued from page 1

and Rehabilitation Center next to the National Guard Armory on Greenbelt Road. Councilmember Rodney Roberts voted in opposition.

When contacted, City Clerk Kathleen Gallagher said that a question on the vote came up later and that council was not sure how to handle the situation. City Manager Michael P. McLaughlin advised that City Solicitor Robert A. Manzi had been asked for an opinion on "the ambiguity of the language." He thought that there might be a need to amend the city charter in order to avoid a similar situation in the future. McLaughlin expected the matter to be considered by council at its March 13 regular meeting.

Hospice Seeks Help With Stride 'n Ride

Hospice of the Chesapeake is looking for committee members to help plan its annual Stride 'n Ride – a walking, running and cycling event to raise awareness of and money for hospice care in Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties. The 2006 event will take place on Saturday, May 6 at Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro. For more information call Leletha Bailey at 800-745-6132 or email lbailey@hospicechesapeake.org.

BARC Lands Included In Stewardship Plan

On January 23 the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) signed an agreement with the state of Maryland and other adjacent landowners to protect a 25,660-acre East Coast natural area in the nation's capital region. The signing marks the formation of the Baltimore-Washington Partners for Forest Stewardship to develop a comprehensive Forest Stewardship Plan.

"This natural area with 3,270 acres of forest and 3,230 acres of wetlands is sometimes called the 'green lungs' of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region because the trees emit so much oxygen into the atmosphere," said ARS Administrator Edward B. Knipling. "ARS will continue to do its part to exercise good stewardship over this valuable natural resource." Also known as the "Green Wedge," the wooded area has long been designated an historic forest research area by the state of Maryland. It has been the site of development of a theory used to determine the amount of forest acreage needed for survival of various bird species. It has also been the site where major national and international bird-counting techniques were developed.

ARS and Patuxent Research Refuge joined with the other two major federal land-holding facilities – the U.S. Army's Fort Meade at Laurel and the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center at Greenbelt – and with the nonprofit Center for Chesapeake Communities to sign a memorandum of understanding with the State of Maryland. The stewardship plan will be designated to be compatible with the missions and ongoing programs of the participating agencies.

USDA has overseen a 13-year sustainable agriculture research program that has reduced pesticide use at BARC by 75 percent and protected the center's streams, one of which supports brown trout that require very clean water.

The "Green Wedge" is in the watershed of the Chesapeake Bay, so the quality of runoff from this area also affects the bay's health.

Patuxent Refuge Hosts Celebration

The public is invited to attend the 103rd anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System on Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the National Wildlife Visitor Center in Laurel. The celebration will feature live animals including reptiles, puppet shows, tram tours, kids' activities and more. The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 197. For directions or more information visit http://patuxent.fws.gov.

College Park Arts Exchange
ARTS WORKSHOPS
at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Rd., College Park

FELTING ($15)
Sat., Mar. 25, from 1 – 4 p.m.

POETRY WORKSHOP ($20)
April 17, 24 and May 1 Mondays from 7 – 9 p.m.

Please send check for registration to College Park Arts Exchange, PO Box 784, College Park, MD 20740
301-927-3013 • info@cpae.org • www.cpae.org

Greenbelt Arts Center Presents
Annual Celtic Concert

The Homespun Ceilidh Band



Saturday, March 11, 8 pm

$12 general admission
$10 students & senior citizens
Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway (next to the Post Office)
RESERVATIONS: 301-441-8770 x2
www.greenbeltartscenter.org

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Farm Fresh Produce

- Crunchy Imported Seedless Grapes 99¢ lb. white/red/black
- Grade A Russet Potatoes 99¢ 5 lb. bag
- Fresh Green Cabbage 17¢ lb.
- Premium California Red Ripe Strawberries $2.99 1 lb. pkg.
- Sweet Juicy California Navel Oranges $2.99 4 lb. bag
- Crisp California Celery 99¢ bunch

Fresh Quality Meats

- Fresh Perdue Oven Stuffer Roasting Chicken 79¢ lb.
- Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Bottom Round Roast $1.99 lb.
- Shurfine Corned Beef Brisket $2.49 lb.
- Hatfield Boneless Pork Picnic Roasts $1.99 lb.
- Fresh Perdue Value Pack Split Chicken Breasts $1.29 lb.
- Hatfield Original Meat Franks 16 oz. $1.00
- Fresh Lean Boneless Pork Loin Chops $3.49 lb.
- Armour Brown & Serve Sausages Assorted 6-7 oz. $1.00

Dairy

- Kraft Parkay Vegetable Spreads Assorted 12-16 oz. $1.00
- Shurfine Shredded Cheese Cheddar/Mozzarella 8 oz.. $1.00
- Pillsbury Iced Cinnamon Rolls 7.3 oz. $1.00
- Yoplait Yogurt Smoothies Assorted 8 oz. $1.00

Deli

- Shurfine Corned Beef $5.69 lb.
- Deli Gourmet Cooked Ham $2.99 lb.
- Deli Gourmet Provolone Cheese $3.39 lb.

Frozen

- Freezer Queen Meals Assorted 6-11 oz. $1.00
- Celeste Pizza For-One Assorted 5-6 oz. $1.00
- Lender's Original Style Bagels Assorted 6 pk. $1.00
- Breyers Ice Cream Assorted 56 oz. $2.50

Health & Beauty

- Western Family Isopropyl Alcohol 16 oz. $1.00
- Western Family Hydrogen Peroxide 32 oz. $1.00

Seafood

- 26-30 Count Cooked Extra Large Shrimp 2 lb. bag $13.99
- Sea Best Frozen Tilapia Fillet 4 oz. $1.00



Natural & Gourmet

- Desert Pepper Gourmet Salsa Assorted 16 oz. $2.99
- Annies Naturals Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing 8 oz. 2/$5.00

Bakery

- Delicious Assorted Donuts Dozen $3.99
- Fresh Instore Baked Italian Bread 16 oz. $1.29

Grocery Bargains

- Shurfine Apple Juice 64 oz. $1.00
- Progresso Classic Soups Selected Varieties 18-19 oz. $1.00
- Vista Saltine Crackers 16 oz. $1.00
- Pennsylvania Dutch Egg Noodles 12-16 oz. $1.00
- Betty Crocker Super Moist Cake Mixes Assorted 16-21 oz. $1.00
- Bumble Bee Chunk White Albacore Tuna 6 oz. $1.00
- Brawny Original Paper Towels White Roll $1.00
- Betty Crocker Family Size Brownie Mix 19-20 oz. $1.00
- Thomas Original English Muffins 6 pk. $1.00
- Gatorade Sports Drinks Assorted 32-34 oz. $1.00

Professional Pharmacy

- We Honor Most Prescription Plans
- Medicare Billing
- Courteous, Knowledgeable Staff
- Free Home Delivery of Prescriptions Monday–Wednesday–Friday
- Free Blood Pressure Tester
- Durable Medical Equipment Sales & Rental

Beer & Wine

- Guinness Extra Stout 6 pk – 12 oz. $7.29
- Jacob's Creek Wines 750 ML $6.99
- Harp Beer 6 pk – 12 oz. $5.99
- Forest Glen Wines 750 ML $7.99
- Yuengling Beer 6 pk. – 12 oz. cans $4.39
- Blue Fish Riesling Wine 750 ML $8.99

Look for our . . .
New, Bigger, Brighter, 6-Page Full Color Ad Flier
enclosed in your weekly News Review.
Check out our big ad flier for lots of additional sale bargains & $aving$. Extra fliers available instore.

DOUBLE COUPONS
See Store for Details

Prices Effective: MARCH

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	13	14	15	16	17	18
19						

SUPERMARKET PHARMACY

121 CENTERWAY–ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Visit us online at www.greenbeltco-op.com

SUPERMARKET
Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

PHARMACY
Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400
Closed Sunday

We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Some products are shown for illustration purposes only and do not representat ftems offered on sale.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Attempted Murder

February 27, 12:04 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, police responded to a report of shots fired in an apartment building. A man reported that he heard a knock at his door; when he looked out the peephole he observed someone crouched down and a second person standing nearby in the hall. The man called out to the two but got no response. He partially opened the door and the first person stuck a handgun into the opening and fired several shots; no one was injured. Both suspects then fled the scene on foot in an unknown direction. The suspects are described as two black males, 18 to 25 years of age, of medium height and build, wearing all black clothing; one also wore a black knit hat.

Robbery

February 24, 4:27 p.m., 5600 block Greenbelt Metro Drive, a woman reported that she met a man in Rockville after answering an ad for an employment opportunity. The woman got into the man's vehicle; they drove on the Beltway for some time when she decided that she had changed her mind about the employment offer and asked to be dropped off at her residence. The man instead took her to the Greenbelt Metro Station, pulled her from the vehicle and took money from her purse. He fled the scene and she contacted police. The suspect is described as a black male, 28 to 30 years of age, 6'1" to 6'2" with a heavy build, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a beige jacket, a black baseball cap and gray New Balance sneakers. His vehicle is described as a gold Lexus 4-door with red and orange lines on the hood.

Assaults

February 24, 9:06 p.m., Jasper's Restaurant, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with second-degree assault, disorderly intoxication and resisting arrest. He was asked to leave the restaurant by police for being disorderly. As the man walked to the lobby area he began shouting profanities and pushed the officer. He was arrested, resisting attempts to place him into custody. The man was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 27, 10 a.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a resident youth was petitioned for second-degree assault after he allegedly punched another student for unknown reasons inside the school.

February 28, 12:57 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a Metro bus driver reported that he had picked up passengers in the area of the mall when he was approached on the bus by a young man who asked why the driver didn't pick up his friend. At the next bus stop the man punched the driver in the face then fled the scene on foot. The driver declined medical treatment for minor injuries. The suspect is described as a black male, 16 to 19 years of age, 5'9", 170 pounds and dressed in all black.

March 1, 11 a.m., 20 Court Ridge Road, a man reported that he was walking down the sidewalk when he was approached by three youths. At least one of the youths punched him in the face for unknown reasons. When a witness attempted to intervene, all three fled the area on foot toward Southway. The suspects were described as all 16 to 17 years of age, one a black male, 6' with black hair in dreadlocks; a black male, 6'1" with black hair in cornrows, wearing a blue shirt; and an Asian or Latino male, 5'7" with short hair, wearing an orange jacket.

March 1, 9:27 p.m., Greenway Center, a man reported that he was walking in the parking lot of the shopping center when a vehicle pulled up alongside him; the driver asked him if he wanted to buy a CD. The man stated that he did not, at which time a rear seat passenger displayed a handgun and told the man to buy a CD. The man ran from the scene and later flagged down a police officer patrolling the area. The suspects were described as a black male, 17 to 19 years of age, 5'7" to 5'9", 140 to 150 pounds with black hair and brown eyes; a black male, 19 to 22 years of age, 6' to 6'1", 200 to 210 pounds, heavy set with black hair and brown eyes; and possibly a black female. Their vehicle is described as a white older-model Chevrolet, possibly a Lumina.

Weapon Arrests

February 23, 11:06 a.m., 5506 Cherrywood Lane, a resident man was arrested and charged with wearing and carrying a handgun, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. Police responded to a report of a man with a gun at the Atlanta Bread Company. A manager reported that a gun was found in an employee's jacket in the employee area after hearing that the employee had been carrying a gun with him to work. The gun was located and secured in the business' safe and police were called. The employee was patted down for additional weapons and was found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana and paraphernalia commonly used to store marijuana. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 23, 5:35 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a resident youth was arrested for concealed deadly weapon and disturbing the peace. Police responded to a report of several youths possibly smoking marijuana in front of an apartment building. The youths were located; one became disorderly, shouting profanities at the police. The suspect was arrested, found to be in possession of a box cutter type knife and was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Drug Arrests

February 21, 5:11 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with several counts relating to the possession of crack cocaine, cocaine and marijuana. After police stopped a vehicle for a registration violation, a computer check revealed that the man had a suspended license. Upon approaching the vehicle an officer detected the odor of what was believed to be marijuana. Located in the vehicle was a quantity of suspected crack cocaine, a quantity of suspected powder cocaine, a quantity of suspected marijuana and paraphernalia commonly used to package marijuana and cocaine for sale. The man was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 28, 3:42 p.m., 7400 block Hanover Parkway, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia and a nonresident youth was arrested for possession of paraphernalia. After police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation they approached it, and detected the odor of what was believed to be marijuana coming from inside. The man was found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana and paraphernalia commonly used to store marijuana. The youth was found to have paraphernalia commonly used to store marijuana next to him in the vehicle. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system. The man was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

DWI Arrests

February 28, 10:03 p.m., Kenilworth Avenue and Old Calvert Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired and driving under the influence after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

March 1, 1:05 a.m., 6400 block Greenbelt Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence, reckless driving, negligent driving, driving on a revoked license and other traffic offenses after being stopped for a traffic violation. The passenger, also a nonresident man, was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia after he was found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to smoke crack cocaine. Both men were released on citation pending trial.

Trespass Arrest

February 24, 4:10 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road, a resident youth was arrested for trespass after he was observed on the grounds of Glen Oak Apartments after having been banned from the complex by agents of the property. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Burglaries

February 25, 1:27 p.m., 18 Court Ridge Road, two resident youths were arrested for fourth-degree burglary after they allegedly removed a dirt bike from the complaintant's backyard. The youths were released to their parents pending action by the juvenile justice system.

March 2, 2:31 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by breaking out a ground floor window. The residence was ransacked but nothing appeared to have been taken.

Vehicle Crimes

Three vehicles were reported stolen: a 2005 Ford F-350 pickup truck from the 6000 block of Greenbelt Road; a tan 1995 Honda Accord 2-door, Maryland tags 7ATH20 from the 7800 block Mandan Road; and a red 1995 Plymouth Neon 4-door, Maryland tags HLE772 from the 8000 block Greenbury Drive.

Three stolen vehicles were recovered, one by Greenbelt police and two by outside police departments. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

Vandalism to, theft from and attempted theft of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7900 block Mandan Road, 7900 block Spring Manor Drive, 38 Court Ridge Road, 6100 block Breezewood Drive and 6200 block Springhill Court.

The Department is offering a reward of up to $500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

County Delegates OK Incentive for Police

On Friday, March 3 the Prince George's County delegation voted 20 to 0 to pass House Bill (HB) 1026, introduced by Delegate Justin D. Ross. HB 1026 would waive the county's transfer tax to county police officers who purchase their first home in the county. It would reduce the transfer tax from 1.4 percent to one percent for county officers, other than first time homebuyers, who purchase a home in the county. The bill would also provide the same reductions for municipal officers who purchase a home within the municipality they serve.

The bill will now go to the House of Delegates where it will first be heard in the Ways and Means Committee.

AWARDS
continued from page 1

programs.

The city had also lowered fertilizer usage by 50 percent and purchased official vehicles using alternative natural fuels. The city also puts out an informative water quality brochure.

Donation

Second, the Greenbelt Rotary Club has found another worthy cause, donating valuable water rescue equipment, including a cold weather suit, to Chief Brian Rudy of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. Rudy accepted the life-saving equipment on behalf of the organization.

Third, Robert Manzi received recognition and a pin from Mayor Judith Davis and the City of Greenbelt for 20 years of service to the council. Manzi serves as the city solicitor.

Later in the meeting Davis mentioned a "very glowing" article about the city manager's office in the magazine "Municipal Maryland." The article was written by Brent Elrod, a former intern to City Manager Michael McLaughlin, who added that the article also mentioned Greenbelt's emergency preparedness program in a positive light.

Other Business

During the reports section of the meeting Councilmember Leta Mach urged residents to volunteer at the city's new animal shelter or to adopt its animals. McLaughlin added that all animals except one "fat cat" had been adopted at the open house attended by Mach on February 19. Davis confirmed that interested residents can call the animal control facility about volunteer opportunities such as walking and feeding the animals.

Davis also described attending two Black History Month activities, one hosted by Greenbelt Middle School and another by Congressman Steny Hoyer. She found both to be enjoyable and impressive celebrations.

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Prince George's Publick Playhouse Parks & Recreation M-NCPPC

FIELDS continued from page 1

The Plan

The plan for the fields was prepared by landscape architects Clinton and Associates of Hyattsville. At the urging of Greenbelt Recreation Department staff, according to Bindernagel, the plan calls for a multi-use athletic facility.

Two softball diamonds will be laid out on the field with the right field line of one paralleling the left field line of the other. Home plates will be located toward the west side of the fields. Batters will face northeast and southeast at these fields. The center outfields will be 275 feet deep with varying lengths in the right and left fields. Pitching areas will be flat.

Bleachers, one facing each field, are proposed for placement in an allée separating the two ball diamonds. It is proposed to relocate a memorial plaque to James Wolfe to that area.

The plan proposes also using the north field for Little League play. That league uses a smaller 200-foot field, according to Bindernagel.

Overlapping the outfields and a part of the infields of the two diamonds will be a football-soccer field, 165 feet wide and 360 feet long, running in a north-south direction. Bindernagel said it would also be possible for two smaller youth soccer fields to be established in each of the two ball diamond outfields. A 15-foot fence will be used along the edges of the two fields to prevent balls from escaping. Around the field's perimeter, a walking/jogging path is proposed.

Parking

To the west of the fields is a gravel parking area that is to become one of two parking areas for field users. Bindernagel said it is proposed to surface these parking areas with street millings which have been stockpiled by the city in that area to provide a permeable surface for the road and parking areas. Surface water from the road and parking areas will flow to the northwest corner of the site where, according to Bindernagel, the city is considering landscaping with water-absorbing plants to curtail runoff into the adjacent forest preserve.

On the north side of the fields another parking area will be located for joint use by field users and astronomers. This area will add 20 spaces to the 46 spaces on the west side of the field for a total of 66.

North of the western end of the parking lot will be the site for the small metal observatory structure now stored at the Public Works facility. A curved walkway will lead from the parking area to the structure. Bindernagel said the interior of the structure is not handicap accessible as the door is too narrow and there is a raised platform. The AGS proposed constructing a 30 foot square concrete pad on the south side of the parking area. The pad would be a surface upon which telescopes could be set up for use by handicapped individuals. The AGS criteria for this pad is that it must not be subject to vibration from moving vehicles in the parking lot.

Because the boards object to the use of impervious concrete, Bindernagel said, they have suggested a wooden platform or one of gravel or stone. The AGS finds neither material suitable, he said, and staff is trying to find a workable solution to the problem.

Pets and Picnics

At the south end of the parking area, a 4,000-square foot fenced dog park is proposed. In earlier concepts, a large dog park was to be located just west of the parking area where a picnic area is now proposed. Bindernagel said the advisory boards had requested the addition of the picnic area and that city Animal Warden Susie Hall reviewed the new dog park plan and found it suitable.

The proposed picnic area is to be situated where the stockpile of street millings is now located, Bindernagel said.

North of the eastern end of the parking lot is an area used by the city for storage and composting of organic material such as leaves. This use will continue. The boards recommended adding steel fencing to the plans in order to better contain the compost.

Goddard Pathway

Bindernagel said he talked to a Goddard official about providing a pathway to the access ramp which provides employee access to NASA from the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Currently some NASA employees cut through the area as a shortcut to work. From a security point of view, Goddard does not object to accessing the facility this way as further along there is a guarded gate, Bindernagel was told.

However, the Parkway ramp was not built with a sidewalk, forcing pedestrians and cyclists to use the roadway. Goddard does not have the funds to build a sidewalk across the Parkway, Bindernagel was told. Thus, because of financial and safety considerations, Goddard cannot support the city creating this pathway.

Museum Tours in Spanish Offered



Hola! College Park Aviation Museum is now offering Spanish language tours at 11 a.m. every second Saturday of the month. The next tour will be held on March 11. Additionally, groups can request guided tours in Spanish any time by calling the museum and making a reservation. Group tours can be used by schools, day care children, community centers, senior centers, churches and clubs.

For those who prefer to enjoy the vintage aircraft and family-friendly, interactive exhibits at their own pace, the College Park Aviation Museum has gallery maps and written walking tours available in both Spanish and English.

The museum is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive in College Park. All children must be accompanied by an adult when visiting the museum or participating in the museum's programs.

The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is a fee.

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March Artist Named At Patuxent Refuge

Janet Mandel is the artist on display during the month of March in the Hollingsworth Art Gallery at the Patuxent Research Refuge's National Wildlife Visitor Center.

Mandel's love of nature and appreciation of all creatures has determined her subject matter since 1995. Inspiration for her work has come from zoos and game parks or as close as her own backyard. Her many works include paintings of songbirds, North American and African wildlife, sea creatures and domestic animals, especially humorous cat portraits, as well as her unique animal mandalas. Mandel's work has been featured by the National Audubon Society, the National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian Institution.

To see some of her work visit her website at http://www.janet-mandel.bigstep.com. The public is invited to view Mandel's work during the month of March at the National Wildlife Visitor Center. The Visitor Center is located off of Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Md. Route 197, south of Laurel. For additional information call 301-497-5760 or visit http://patuxent.fws.gov.



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Get a lot of home for the money! This 2 bedroom townhome backs to protected woodlands. Enjoy wildlife at your back door. $176,900 SOLD

Greenbrook
Beautiful townhome in move-in condition. Garage, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths & breakfast area overlooking woodlands. $355,000 SOLD

Affordable Housing
GHI 2 bedroom townhome with hardwood floors & new paint downstairs; new carpet on the top level. Updated kitchen & bath. $178,500

Linda Ivy - 301 675-0585
Dirk Kingsley - 240 472-0572
Mary Kingsley - 240 604-6605
Denise Parker - 301 709-8689
Michele Southworth - 240 286-4847

Brick Townhome on Corner Lot
This 2 bedroom home has central air and heating; a rarity for GHI! Close to Roosevelt Center - rear addition laundry room. $249,900

Frame Townhome - End Unit
Great value in this 2 bedroom GHI home. Two bedrooms and two full levels. Lots of improvements at a bargain price! Just $164,900.

Corner lot with addition
GHI frame townhome with one of the largest yards in GHI. Boiler room addition has full bath and forced-air heating & cooling. $214,990 SOLD

Brick End Unit With Large Addition
GHI townhome with 3 bedrooms & hardwood floors upstairs. Lower level addition has half-bath. Steps to Roosevelt Center. $264,900 U.C.

New Listing in GHI
This two bedroom townhome is adjacent to protected woodlands and miles of hiking trails. Get out of the rent trap and buy now! $178,900

Backs To Woodlands
Three bedroom GHI townhome with addition and wooded backyard that overlooks Parcel One with lots trees and wildlife. $199,900 SOLD

Three Bedroom Townhome
Refinished oak hardwood flooring on both levels. Front porch addition with sliding glass doors. Across from park & play area. $174,900 SOLD

U.C.=Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Schools in the News

School Board OKs 2006-2007 Calendar

At its March 2 meeting the Prince George's County Board of Education approved the 2006-2007 school calendar. The next school year begins on Monday, August 21 with a calendar that includes 180 instructional days for students as required by state law and additional planning time for teachers.

Teachers will have three days dedicated for grading and planning and one and a half days for professional development during the next school year. Teachers have a second opportunity for parent-teacher conferences in the spring. Four professional development days are planned for all teachers and three training days for new teachers are scheduled during the two weeks prior to students returning to school.

The 2006-2007 school calendar highlights include: two parent/teacher conference days – November 6, 2006 and March 30, 2007 – when schools will be closed for students; three teacher grading/planning days – October 27, 2006, January 12, 2007 and March 29, 2007 – when schools will be closed for students; two election days – September 12, 2006 (tentative date) and November 7, 2006 – when schools and offices will be closed; and additional days built into the third semester to offset instructional days lost to Maryland School Assessment testing.

In November 2005, school system administrators held their first meeting with a committee of stakeholder groups that included employee union leaders, principals and parent, teacher and community representatives. The draft 2006-2007 school calendar was posted online for public comment from January 17, 2006 to February 3, 2006. The approved 2006-2007 school calendar is now posted at www.pgcps.org.

P.G. School Board Hosts Award Night

The Prince George's County Board of Education will host the second awards program for the 2005-2006 school year to honor and pay tribute to students for their outstanding academic performance and talent. The board and interim CEO will also recognize principals, school administrators, teachers, business/community leaders and others for their contributions to the school system.

The program will be held Monday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. in the Sasscer Administration Building Board Room, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro. For information call Cheryl Landis, 301-952-6308.

School Master Plan Committee Meets

The Master Plan Committee of the Prince George's County Board of Education will meet Monday, March 13 at 6 p.m. in the Sasscer Administration Building Board Executive Meeting Room, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro.

The Master Plan Committee focuses on the school system's Quality Schools Program Strategic Plan. Stakeholders in attendance are allowed to participate.

Contact Amber Wilson at 301-952-6239 for further information.



P.G. School System Announces New CEO

At its March 2 board meeting the Prince George's County Board of Education voted unanimously to name Dr. John Edward Deasy as its choice for new Chief Executive Officer of Prince George's County Public Schools. Pending approval by the State Superintendent of Schools, Deasy's effective start date is May 1.

"The Board of Education and its many stakeholders are excited about the energy and expertise that our new leader, Dr. Deasy, brings to the school system," said Board Chair Beatrice P. Tignor. "I believe he understands the challenges we face and has the right skills, vision, sense of urgency and understanding of what it will take to lift up every child in all of our schools."

Dr. Charlene Dukes confirmed that the board completed its due diligence last week, evaluating Deasy according to criteria established by its stakeholders committee in October 2005. As the board's Personnel Committee Chair, Dukes joined Tignor and Robert Duncan, Finance, Audit and Budget Committee chair, when they visited the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District on February 23.

They met there with the following groups: board chair and board members; cabinet level central office staff; elementary, middle and high school principals; support staff; parents and PTA representatives; chamber and business representatives; union leadership and students.

During the February 16 board meeting, the Prince George's County Board of Education unanimously approved naming Deasy as its "lead candidate" for the CEO position. That resolution required board members to exercise due diligence by visiting the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and the communities surrounding it before finalizing an offer.

Booklet for Parents Published by State

The Maryland State Department of Education is mailing to schools nearly 700,000 copies of "A Parent's Guide to Achievement Matters Most," a booklet for parents that encourages their involvement in schools and reviews statewide testing programs, the voluntary statewide curriculum and accountability measures.

The booklet also introduces parents to the goals of "Achievement Matters Most," Maryland's plan for pre-K – 12 public education and Maryland's Parent Advisory Council, the department's initiative to increase family involvement in schools.

The booklet is also available at the website: http://www.marylandpublicschools.org.

Highlights of the booklet include tips for parents on encouraging student achievement and sample test questions from the Maryland School Assessment and the Maryland High School Assessments.

Summer Programs For Gifted Students

Registration is now underway for 18 Summer Center programs across the state run by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for gifted and talented students entering grades 4 through 12.

The centers offer one- to three-week residential and non-residential programs with tuition ranging from $100 to $650. Full and partial scholarships are available for those who need financial assistance.

Brochures and application forms are available from schools and local gifted and talented education coordinators. Information and an application form are on the website of the MSDE at www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters.

Examples of this year's schedule include Arts at the Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute in Baltimore City, Space Science at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Howard County, Multidisciplinary Studies of the Potomac Valley in Washington County and Chinese Studies in Frederick.

Engineering Students Offered Scholarships

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Northrop Grumman Corporation Engineering Scholars competition, which will provide a total of $240,000 in college scholarships next year to promising high school seniors across Maryland interested in studying engineering.

Individual scholarships of $10,000 will be awarded by Northrop Grumman to a qualified graduating high school senior in each of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. Candidates must plan to attend an accredited college or university as a full-time student in an approved engineering program. The funds may be used for tuition, books, lodging and meals.

A committee of Northrop Grumman employees will select the Engineering Scholars winners. Applicants must be residents of Maryland and graduating seniors in the spring of 2006 from a public or accredited private high school in Maryland. Applicants for the scholarship program must also meet minimum SAT and GPA requirements. The application deadline is March 31.

Application forms have been sent to all high schools within the state. Students can obtain an information packet and applications for the Northrop Grumman Engineering Scholars program from their school guidance office. The application form is also available at http://www.es.northropgrumman.com/engscholars.

City Information

School Needs Are Major Greenbelt West Concern

This article is the sixth in a series of articles to ensure that Greenbelt residents are aware of the development and redevelopment proposals being considered for Greenbelt West. Greenbelt West is that area of the city west of Kenilworth Avenue, east of the Metrorail tracks and between the Capital Beltway and Greenbelt Road. This week's article is about the impact these developments are likely to have on the schools in that area.

There are currently two schools in Greenbelt West: Greenbelt Middle and Springhill Lake Elementary. Greenbelt Middle School is one of the oldest middle schools in Prince George's County. Long before there were any plans for the development and redevelopment of Greenbelt West, its deteriorating condition had become a cause of concern to the city. A renovated or new Greenbelt Middle School has been in the school board's Capital Improvement Program since 1988; however, for a variety of reasons, the project has been deferred year after year. At the same time, Springhill Lake Elementary was not scheduled for any significant work.

This picture started to change with AIMCO's plan for rebuilding the Springhill Lake community. Springhill Lake Elementary is located at the lowest part of the property and one of AIMCO's proposals was to acquire this property for the purpose of building a lake. In exchange, AIMCO offered to build a new elementary school elsewhere in the neighborhood. Over recent months, support had developed for the idea of building a combined middle/elementary school on the present Greenbelt Middle School property, which would serve about 1,000 middle school and 800 elementary school students. However, as discussions continued, it became increasingly apparent that the new residential units to be added by Greenbelt Station and the redeveloped Springhill Lake (2,000 and 2,900 respectively) would likely generate more than enough children to require at least another elementary school, if not another middle school.

Now that these needs have been recognized, the parties involved are looking at various options. The school board owns a 19-acre property in College Park, just across the Metrorail tracks from the South Core of Greenbelt Station. This property could be used for either a middle or elementary school. Based upon conversations with county representatives, including County Councilmember Douglas J.J. Peters, another scenario is that the county may choose not to relinquish the existing Springhill Lake Elementary School site or do so only if AIMCO provides a site for an additional elementary school.

In addition to land, the funding for the schools must be identified and committed. The school board's Capital Improvement Program includes $31 million for a middle school and both AIMCO and Greenbelt Station will be required to pay school surcharge fees. Although those fees are typically paid over time on a per-unit basis as the development is built, AIMCO has offered to pay $20 million up front as its fee toward the combined elementary/secondary school. It is projected that enough funding is available for the combined school but funding has not yet been identified for any additional elementary or secondary school.

Other impacts will inevitably occur depending upon which plans are ultimately adopted. For example, if a combined middle/elementary school is built on the Greenbelt Middle School campus, then students will have to be relocated for a period of two to three years. A location on Greenbelt Road between Good Luck and Lanham-Severn Roads is under consideration.

The schools issue is one of the most complicated issues related to the development of Greenbelt West because it involves so many interested parties and because the decisions to be made are so intertwined. Since building Greenbelt Station and rebuilding Springhill Lake will take seven to 10 years, there will be time for all the school needs to be identified and solutions to be found. Finding the best solutions will require the creativity and cooperation of everyone.

If there are questions about this article, please forward them to the Planning Department at 301-345-5417 or email pcd@greenbeltmd.gov. The next – and last – article will identify the next steps in the process.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Piano Festival

On Saturday, March 11 at 2 p.m. Joseph Horowitz, artistic director for the American Piano Festival, is joined by historians and other guests to discuss the piano's pivotal role in cultural identity. This free event takes place in the Kogod Theatre of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

Free Band Concert

On Monday, March 13 at 8 p.m. the UM School of Music presents the UM Concert Band, conducted by L. Richmond Sparks. This free performance by the popular ensemble will take place in Dekelboum Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

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